

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

INT-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /064 W

----- 007034

R 071055Z SEP 76 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1798

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, QA, IR, MA, MU, TC, IZ, SA

SUBJ: GULF NEWS AGENCY AGAIN REARS ITS HEAD

1. SEPT 2 EDITION OF QATARI DAILY "AL ARAB" CARRIED ARTICLE THAT GULF NEW AGENCY WOULD BEGIN OPERATIONS BEFORE THEEND OF THIS YEAR. ACCORDING REPORT, TECHNICAL COMMITTEE COMPRISING MEMBERS FROM QATAR, BAHRAIN, SAUDI ARABIA, KUWAIT, UAE AND IRAQ, IS SCHEDULED TO MEET IN MANAMA ON OCT 2 TO PUT "FINAL TOUCHES" ON GNA. ARTICLE RECALLED THAT DECISION ESTABLISHING GNA TAKEN BY GULF INFORMATION MINISTERS AT ABU DHABI MEETING LAST JAN AND PROJECT FURTHERED BY PREVIOUS MEETING OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ALSO IN MANAMA.

2. COMMENT: ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL IMPERIAL STORM OCCASIONED BY DECISION TO ESTABLISH GNA, AND GENERALLY CONCILIATORY REACTIONS OF GULF STATES TO IRANIAN IRE. IT APPEARS, HOWEVER, THAT PROJECT

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IS PROCEEDING. WE WOULD APPRECIATE UPDATE ON IRANIAN ATTITUDE

FROM EMBASSY TEHRAN.
PAGANELLI

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